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The Circulation of The Bulletin

The Bulletin has the largest circulation of any paper in Eastern Connecticut and from three to four times larger than that of any in Norwich. It is delivered to over 3,000 of the 4,053 houses in Norwich, and to 1,100 in Windham. It is delivered to over 500 houses in Putnam and Danielson to over 1,100 and in all of these places it is considered the local daily.

Eastern Connecticut has forty-nine towns, one hundred and sixty-five postoffice districts, and thirty rural free delivery routes. The Bulletin is sold in every town on all of the R. F. D. routes in Eastern Connecticut.

CIRCULATION

1901, average 4,412

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REVIVING A TABOOED POLICY.

From the early and meager reports received concerning the sinking of the Italian liner Ancona, it might appear that Austria had taken up the Tirpitz policy of dealing with the merchant vessels of the enemy where Germany had left off, but further details are necessary before such an opinion is justified. German and Austrian submarines have been busy in the Mediterranean and Adriatic for some time. It was only recently that Ambassador Bernstorff announced that 23 of the allies' ships had been sunk in that region but with the exception of warships and transports there has been consideration given to the safety of the crews.

Whether this was done in the case of the Ancona remains to be seen. That several hundred were saved and landed intact, that there was, were it not for the fact that 300 or more are said to have drowned. This feature of the affair gives strong indication that no warning was given and that those who got away did so through their good fortune in making use of the safety appliances of the ship. That being the case, Austria is open to the same protests for disregard of international law that Germany was, and in view of the fact that Germany has abandoned such practices, and their cause is a common one, the offense seems up all the greater. It means an utter disregard for the rights of neutrals and non-combatants unless Austria can show that the submarine commander was justified in the course which he followed, and for that reason the full details surrounding the affair will be awaited with deep interest.

ONE-SIDED RESPONSIBILITY.

The unjust burden that is being placed upon railroads in the protection of lives at grade crossings is clearly demonstrated by the statement which has been made by General Manager McCrea of the Long Island railroad for the month of October whereby it is shown that 23 operators of automobiles and other vehicles failed to pay any respect whatever to the danger which was involved at such points, and instead of doing anything to aid in their own protection, despite the warnings and efforts made by the railroad in their behalf, continued heedlessly across the tracks.

Long Island may possess an unusually large number of dangerous crossings, but that very fact should get a corresponding respect from the users. That it does not is shown by the fact that a dozen drivers, most of whom were autoists, sent their machines crashing through lowered gates. They had respect neither for the danger which a crossing always presents nor for the attention which was given by the railroad to insure their safety. In addition traffic signs were demolished and signal lights destroyed, so that there was manifested not only a disregard for their own welfare, but the protection which others have a right to expect was deliberately wiped out.

That displays a disposition which ought to be dealt with severely by the authorities. It shows a condition which the large majority of highway users do not subscribe to, and even though the accidents were few as the result of such inexcusable recklessness it places a responsibility upon the railroad which is far in excess of what it should justly assume.

ONE SHOULD BE ENOUGH.

With altogether too much frequency do there come reports of banks being forced to close their doors. A few days ago it was one in the middle west and now there is announced the suspension of a banking house in Georgia and the placing of its affairs in the hands of the comptroller of the currency. If in this case, as it is intimated, it will be possible after the affairs of the bank have been straightened out for it to continue business there are reasons for satisfaction over the fact that such a step as has been taken has been made at this time.

That the comptroller has been aware of its condition is indicated by the statement which he makes when he says: "His failure is due to continued mismanagement, the tying up of its capital and deposits in loans to its president, vice president, cashier and

other directors and enterprises in which these officers and directors are interested. Other irregularities include excessive borrowings, unlawful real estate loans and other violations of the national bank act, against which this bank has been repeatedly warned by this office."

Thankfully there are few such institutions which defy the law under which they exist and secure the confidence of the people. They are the exception rather than the rule, but it is unfortunate that the system of inspection permits them to get into any such condition. The first indication of mismanagement or the disposition to wink at the regulations should be sufficient cause for stiff censure on the part of government and in a position through its inspectors to have first hand knowledge of irregularities. One rather than repeated warnings should be enough.

MUST STOP THE BLUNDERS.

Whatever may be the full object of Lord Kitchener's visit to the near east, whether it eventually means a trip into Egypt and India, there can be no question but what his services are much needed in securing the proper cooperation and organization among the allies for the big task that lies before them in the Balkans.

Germany, Austria and Bulgaria have driven back the Servians steadily, even though it has been at a great sacrifice. They have partially attained the object of their drive into Serbian territory, for while the important railroad line has not been secured they have nevertheless opened up the Danube for the free passage of such supplies of ammunition and guns that it is desired to send to Turkey and for the reception of needed metal and foodstuffs from that direction.

Though the Servians are forcing the enemy to fight hard for every inch of the country they are getting, and the assistance which the allies have sent and are sending has not succeeded in turning the tide of battle, a campaign of great importance is still impending. The prospects are good that Bulgaria and Serbia will see much more fighting before they see less, since the allies must strike there unless they are prepared to abandon their Dardanelles efforts. In the bringing together of the several allies for a concerted effort Lord Kitchener has taken up the responsibility which can be placed. It is a vital move that is being made in the Balkans and it is the part of wisdom to see that no more blunders are made, and from all appearances this is the purpose of the British secretary of war, at least in the near east.

KITCHEN'S STRADDLE.

An interesting situation is presented in the lower house of congress at the coming session if Claude Kitchin of North Carolina, chairman of the important ways and means committee and leader of the democratic members in that body wears a double face as he promises to. Despite the position which has been taken by the president, Congressman Kitchin has come out against the plan for providing a proper defense for the country in case of invasion, and he strongly opposed to militarism and in that he shares the feelings of the country but his particular opposition is to the ideas which have been advanced for the building of the navy rather than what it is intended to do for the army.

He stands in a double position for while he has announced that he will support administration measures as the leader of the house he will nevertheless as an individual give his support to the opposition. This attitude gives promise of some interesting results. It is a hard role to play and it is beset by difficulties if he expects to be faithful to the party and to himself. Leadership of that kind is not apt to amount to very much. He is not the first to try such a scheme, but if he carries it through he will display greater ability than his predecessors. It may be of little consequence to the country just where this particular congressman stands on the question of national defense, but for a leader to stand on one side of the fence and then on the other playing a Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde act in the halls of congress promises a spectacle which means factions and serious embarrassment, and the still more unfortunate feature is that the controlling party has no other leader who can handle the reins.

EDITORIAL NOTES.

Greece still hangs to neutrality, but continues to make things more inviting for the allies.

Cooler weather brings relief to the fellow who has to empty the pan under the ice box.

The Japanese coronation is having a hard time trying to compete with affairs in the near east.

Signs of reconstruction are appearing in Mexico and they should be as welcome as the flowers in spring.

According to market statements imported nuts are scarce. That means less work for the immigration officials.

Berlin regrets the departure of Whitlock from Brussels. That ought to be good for a big reception on his return.

From all indications the Thaw divorce case is not going to have any appreciable effect upon the war in Europe.

China has voted to go back to a monarch before it has had a real good taste of the republican form of government.

The town tax has been reduced three-quarters of a mill, but it was not through any generosity upon the part of the state.

The man on the corner says: Possibly the secret of happiness is to get through the first ten years of spiritual sunshine today.

The blockade maintained by the British may be said to be illegal, but Germany has not been bragging about it not being effective.

A Massachusetts couple are trying the experiment of living like Adam and Eve in the Maine woods. They could get pretty good evidence of what deprivation means in many a locality in their own state.

That postmaster in a New York town whose office has been burglarized regularly for the past ten years, may profit from the example of many a country storekeeper who never leaves but a few pennies in the till.

HOW IT HAPPENED

The girl with the white fox boa and the Cossack boots slithered along from in front of the jeweler's window, where she had been languidly examining the diamond solitaire rings on exhibition, and stopped in front of a stationer's window.

"I was to Maggie's wedding last night," she announced to the wooden image of a young man that slumped along beside her.

"The young man fixed a vacant stare on the tip of her hat, and 'Maggie's whose?' he inquired sleepily.

"The girl twitched an impatient shoulder at him. 'Stupid!' she ejaculated. 'Haven't I been telling you for the last couple of months about Maggie's wedding, her that lives in the flat across from the first flat in our building?'

"The young man looked contrite. 'Well, you see I couldn't come over last night,' he began humbly.

"Who said they were expecting you?" broke in his companion tartly. 'Personally I don't ever remember making such a remark and I wasn't to home anyway. I just scarcely finished telling you I was to Maggie's wedding. Say it was a dandy wedding. She went on without giving him a chance to reply. 'Honest, it was the grandest party I ever saw. I was regularly swell, that's what it was. It was just grand, everything about it! And what do you think? They sent out 500 announcements, grand ones, swell they could be.'

"I don't know as that would help you any," said the girl coolly, opening her handbag and surveying herself critically in the tiny glass that dangled inside. 'They was just announcements like anybody else's.'

The young man's jaw dropped slightly at the sudden change of front. 'But I thought you just said—' he began.

"Oh, you make me tired," said the girl impatiently. 'What difference does it make what I said? I guess I got a right to say what I please.'

They gazed into the window in silence for a moment.

"That's why I stopped to look at these announcements," went on the girl presently in a more amiable tone, 'to see if they was as swell as Mag's. The young man, who had been on foot to the other as though debating whether silence were not his safest refuge, "And—and are they?" he ventured.

"Sure," replied the girl. 'Jen Patterson had awful swell ones, too,' she went on chattily.

The young man, who had been on foot to the other as though debating whether silence were not his safest refuge, "And—and are they?" he ventured.

"You got some awful swell friends, haven't you, Ester?" he asked presently.

"Yes, I got quite a few, she answered complacently. 'But then I got some that's just as nice and common as they can be.'

This assurance seemed to act like a tonic on the boy. A faint smile lit up his stolid countenance.

"Have you?" he queried. 'I guess I like those kind better myself,' he said. 'I guess you don't though, do you?'

"Oh, I don't know," replied the girl airily. She moved along to the other end of the window. 'My chum's going to get married June next, and I guess, maybe, I'll stand up with her. She's going to have an awful swell wedding, regular invitations and everything and cards telling you to admit to the church and all.'

"Gee," gulped the young man. 'I guess you know all about the swell ways of doing things. I bet you'll have the swellest wedding ever when you get married.'

The girl gave a sudden shrill little laugh and drew the white fox fur closer up under her chin.

"I guess there's no danger of my ever having any kind of a wedding, let alone a swell one. I think you're perfectly killing, talking about me getting married. I guess the fellow that all I'm good for is to stand up with other folks. I just hate weddings! I ain't never going to another one.'

The young man gulped speechlessly for a moment. Then he opened his mouth in an effort to become articulate. Then he shut it again, while his companion turned her head away from him and appeared to ignore his struggle.

"It ain't that I mind being an old maid," she said with a spritful toss of her head. 'Only no person likes to have folks saying they couldn't get a fellow and all, and I guess that's what they'll say about me.'

Her young voice quivered and she turned her head away. The young man writhed. 'Now, say, Ester,' he struggled, 'you know, now, Ester, there's some fellows—now, honest, Ester, I don't ever remember making such a remark and I wasn't to home anyway. I just scarcely finished telling you I was to Maggie's wedding. Say it was a dandy wedding. She went on without giving him a chance to reply. 'Honest, it was the grandest party I ever saw. I was regularly swell, that's what it was. It was just grand, everything about it! And what do you think? They sent out 500 announcements, grand ones, swell they could be.'

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